



STANTON L. LANGE

20630 N. DeVries Road, Lodi, CA 95242
209/368-4859

VINEYARD MANAGEMENT

August 8, 2000

Mr. Steve Ritchie, Acting Executive Director
Cal-Fed Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Final Programmatic EIS/EIR

Dear Mr. Ritchie,

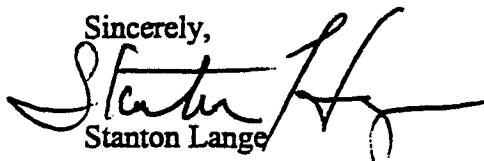
As a San Joaquin County winegrape farmer, I am concerned with the final Cal-Fed EIS/EIR released July 21. I respectfully request that you give us more time to review and comment on your document. It is long and complex and needs time to digest. Holding hearings to explain the Cal-Fed program would also be very helpful.

Through this entire process I have been concerned about the loss of farmland, loss of water and the lack of progress on storage. As California's population continues to grow and the environment continues to require more water, that water should come from newly developed storage, not from farmers.

Do we really want to lose thousands of acres of farmland in California and lose the habitat it provides for numerous animals and plants? Right now the government owns about half the land in California yet 75 percent of the wildlife habitat is on private land. It must be evident that we as farmers are providing for the wildlife and its habitat.

I request you grant additional time for comments and hold public hearings before you implement the plan.

Sincerely,


Stanton Lange

Cc: Governor Gray Davis
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
State Senator Patrick Johnston
Representative Richard Pombo
Assembly Member Anthony Pescetti
San Joaquin county Board of Supervisors